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For Immediate Release:

On February 17, 2023, members of the North Texas Sheriff's Criminal Interdiction Unit, a multi-agency initiative between Collin, Grayson, Hunt, Parker, Rockwall, Smith, Tarrant, and Wise Counties, conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 20 within Smith County.

The operator of a motor vehicle, Erik Marin Islas Angeles of Mexico, gave voluntary consent for a search of his motor vehicle. During the search of the vehicle, members discovered anomalies within the vehicle. Within a false compartment, members discovered 9 pounds or approximately 42,000 fentanyl pills. Angles is being held at the Smith County Sheriff's Office on a \$2,000,000 bond.

Collin County Sheriff Jim Skinner stated, "This large seizure of fentanyl by NTXCIU deputies will make communities across East and North Texas that much safer. The eight Sheriff's offices that comprise the NTXCIU will continue their close inter-agency cooperation to push back and fight the deadly scourge of fentanyl. These efforts save lives."

Smith County Sheriff Larry Smith stated, "I am proud of the inter-agency cooperation between this multi-agency task force. I am also proud of our K-9 and Narcotics Unit who, in short notice, responded to this incident. This influx of deadly fentanyl into our state and communities has to be stopped."

